

Daniel's Prayer **Daniel 9:1-24**

I. Prompted to Pray - 1-3

1. First year of reign of Darius the Mede - 1
Babylon has fallen, Medo-Persia now rules
2. Daniel was studying Jeremiah – 2
Jeremiah's prediction (25:9-14) 70 years
This time is now come to fulfillment
3. Daniel sees it as a call to prayer – 3
He turns to God in humble brokenness
Sets his face to seek the Lord God
Comes with prayer, supplication, fasting
Comes in sackcloth and ashes

II. Prayer of Confession – 4-15

1. Acknowledges God's faithfulness – 4
God has been true to His covenant
He has kept His promises
2. Israel is guilty before God – 5-6
Disobeyed His commandments - 5
Rebelled against God, broke the covenant
Disregarded God's prophets – 6
Leaders & people rejected God's warnings
3. God is just in judging His people - 7-10
God is righteous in His judgment of sin - 7
We are guilty and ashamed before you - 8
God is merciful & forgiving in our rebellion – 9
Our disobedience is the cause of all this – 10
4. Sin will bring God's curse – 11-15
God warned His people through Moses – 11-12
Deuteronomy 28:15-68 are solemn words
Yet we did not seek God in prayer – 13
His curse has come upon us – 14
In spite of God's past deliverance – 15
Like what God did in Egypt

III. Prayer for Restoration - 16-19

1. Request based on God's character – 16
According to your righteousness
Not on the goodness of man
Your faithfulness to your promises
Your commitment to Abraham
2. Based on God' glory – 17-18
Your sanctuary is desolate – 17
Your people are desolate – 18
Your city is desolate – 18
3. Request for forgiveness – 19
For your name sake

IV. God's Response – 20-23

1. God's response through Gabriel - 20-23
Comes quickly- while he prayed - 20, 21

- Comes at time of the evening sacrifice – 21
Without a Temple, Daniel still worshipped
2. God will give Daniel understanding – 22-23
He gives understanding so we know His truth
He gives skill so we can live in His truth
 3. Restoration will come but not yet - 24
Return in 70 yrs, but restoration would come later
Restoration not until 70 sevens - 24
“weeks” (heptad) - grouping of seven - like our dozen
We measure time in units of 10 (decades)
Jews measured time in units of seven (heptads)
Seven days in one week
Seventh year is a Sabbath year
Seven Sabbath years ushered in Year of Jubilee
Seventy sevens would equal 490
Is it a week of 7 days, 7 months, 7 years?
Time for rebuilding (seven sevens) fits years
Dividing of week in v. 27 points to years
70 x 7 years would be 490 years